



Minutes
City Of Edina, Minnesota
Human Rights and Relations Commission
City Hall, Council Chambers
Thursday, December 10, 2015

I. Call To Order

Chair Arseneault called the December 10th, 2015 Human Rights and Relations Commission meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

II. Roll Call

Answering roll call were Chair Arseneault, Commissioners Kennedy, Seidman, Tian, Vecchio-Smith, Winnick and Student Commissioners Kearney and Ramesh. Staff present: HRRC Staff Liaison MJ Lamon.

Absent Members: Commissioners Rinn and Burza

III. Approval Of Meeting Agenda

Motion by Seidman to approve the December 10, 2015 Human Rights and Relations Commission meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Winnick. Motion carried.

IV. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

Motion by Kennedy to approve the November 17, 2015 minutes. Motion seconded by Seidman. Motion carried.

V. Special Recognitions And Presentations

Chair Arseneault introduced Sarah Walker, Government Affairs Consultant and member of the Minnesota Second Chance Coalition. Ms. Walker presented to the HRRC on criminal justice reform in the age of Ferguson and Black Lives Matter, and on best practices for cities and local law enforcement in addressing issues of race bias.

VI. Community Comment

None.

VII. Reports/Recommendations

A. 2015 Work Plan Updates

a) Community Conversations

The Commission accepted the Community Conversations listening sessions report. The report will be added to the January meeting agenda for the group to have discussion.

b) Affordable Housing

Commissioner Winnick provided recap of past years events related to affordable housing in Edina and the affordable housing policy approved by the Council.

c) Human Rights City Designation

The Human Rights City Designation working group is continuing their outreach by presenting to various organizations and groups. The most recent event took place at the Edina Morningside Rotary. There are 4 more presentations scheduled at this time. Total estimate of reach will be approximately 350 people.

d) Website Updates

Commission reviewed updates on the website, including “Tom Oye Award” and “Past Projects”. Another website addition underway is the Days of Remembrance and Genocide Awareness page.

B. 2016 Proposed Work Plan Initiatives

a) Sharing Values and Sharing Community

Created a committee to do pre-work on initiative pending the work plan being approved. Vecchio-Smith and Winnick volunteered to be on the committee with Kennedy.

b) 2016 Days of Remembrance Event

Date is set for Sunday, April 10 from 1pm to 3pm. Location is Edina City Hall, Council Chambers. Lucy Smith has been secured as the presenter. The Committee will meet soon to discuss more about marketing and promoting the event.

VIII. Correspondence And Petitions

None.

IX. Chair And Member Comments

Commissioner Kennedy: CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) is going to be voted on at the next Minneapolis City Council meeting. The cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul and Red Wing have recognized Indigenous People’s Day.

Chair Arseneault: Resident who had attended a Community Conversations event has inquired whether the HRRC can assist in leading a conversation in her apartment building among diverse neighbors. HRRC requested this be added to January meeting agenda.

X. Staff Comments

Board and Commission work plans will be approved at the December 15 City Council meeting.

XI. Adjournment

Motion by Kennedy to adjourn the November 17th HRRC meeting at 8:12 PM. Motion seconded by Seidman. Motion carried.